

The logo features a stylized sun with rays and three birds in flight on the left. In the center is a dark silhouette of the state of Virginia with the year '2006' in large white text. To the right of the state silhouette are the words 'Protect', 'Promote', and 'Preserve' stacked vertically. Below these elements, the text 'Governor's Natural Resources' is in a smaller font, and 'LEADERSHIP SUMMIT' is in a large, bold, sans-serif font.

Protect  
Promote  
Preserve

2006

Governor's Natural Resources  
**LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**



# The Honorable L. Preston Bryant, Jr.

Secretary of Natural  
Resources



# A History of Hungry Mother

Jim Kelly

District Manager, Virginia  
State Parks



# The Honorable L. Preston Bryant, Jr.

Secretary of Natural  
Resources

**Governor's Natural Resources Leadership Summit**  
**Partnership Action Agenda**

				5/1/2003	6/1/2003	7/1/2003	8/1/2003	9/1/2003	10/1/2003	11/1/2003	12/1/2003	1/1/2004	2/1/2004	3/1/2004	4/1/2004	5/1/2004	6/1/2004	7/1/2004	8/1/2004	9/1/2004	10/1/2004	11/1/2004	12/1/2004	1/1/2005	2/1/2005	3/1/2005	4/1/2005	5/1/2005	6/1/2005
Task	Lead	Agencies	Due Date																										
Water Resources																													
Stormwater	JHM	DCR/DEQ/CBLAD	10/1/2003						X																				
SWCD Plan	JHM	DCR																											
Straight Pipes	RGB	DEQ																											
Ag. Stewardship Act	RGB	DEQ/DCR/V DACS																											
Water Quality Stds.	RGB	DEQ	W/in yr.													X	w/in year												
Tributary Strat.	RVB	DEQ	W/in yr.													X	May. 1, 2004												
Roundtables	JHM	DEQ/DCR																											
Drought Response Plan	DKP	DEQ																											
Water Supply Planning	DKP	DEQ								X																			
Land Conservation																													
Stew ardship Recog	JHM	DCR/DHR																											
Land Conversion Rates	JHM	DCR/CBLAD/DHR/DOF	6/1/2004													X	Jun. 1, 2004												
Transportation Corridors	DKP	V DOT (Jeff Southerd)	4/1/2004												X	Apr. 1, 2004													
Outdoor Recreation																													
Outdoor Rec. Workgroup	DKP	SNR/DCR/DOF/DGIF/VTC																											
Partnership Programs	KSK	DCR/DOF/DHR/DGIF																											
Jamestown n 2007	KSK	DCR/DHR/VTC																											
John Smith Water Trail	JHM	DCR/DHR/VTC																											
Fisheries/Wildlife Res.																													
Comp. Wildlife Plan	WLW	DGIF	1/1/2005															X	Jan. 1, 2005										
Market Seafood	WP	SNR/SCT	11/1/2003							X	Nov. 1, 2003																		
Revenue Flexibility	WW	DGIF/MRC	11/1/2003							X	Nov. 1, 2003																		
Cross Cutting Themes																													
Ekep. Env. Compliance	DKP	SNR/DEQ																											
Nat. Res. Funding Comm.	DKP	SNR	9/1/2003					X	Sep. 1, 2003																				
Nat. Res. Partnership	DKP	SNR																											
Env. Education	DKP	SNR	7/1/2003			X	Jul. 1, 2003																						



# Future Action Agenda

- Address Unmet Needs
  - Tackle New Challenges
  - Collaboration
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# Land Conservation

- Benefits for water quality, recreation, wildlife habitat and air quality.
- Support for land conservation is broad.
- Goal can be achieved entirely through voluntary means, as long as we have the tools and resources to do it.

...Together we can get to 400,000 acres!





# The Honorable L. Preston Bryant, Jr.

Secretary of Natural  
Resources





# The Honorable Robert S. Bloxom

Secretary of  
Agriculture and  
Forestry



# Overview of Summit Themes

Nikki Rovner

Deputy Secretary of  
Natural Resources



# Summit Themes

- Land Conservation
  - Air Quality
  - Outdoor Recreation, Fisheries & Wildlife Resources
  - Water Quality & Water Resources
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# Land Conservation

Joseph Maroon

Director, Department of  
Conservation and Recreation



# Virginia Land Conservation Goal: 400,000 newly protected acres by 2010

- Announced by Governor Kaine in April 2006
- Encompasses and expands upon commitment by Virginia and its Bay partner states in 2000 to protect 20% of the lands in the Chesapeake Bay watershed by 2010.
- The 400,000 acre goal would achieve the Bay commitment and advance important land preservation in southern Virginia.
- “...with every passing day, land is becoming more expensive and scarcer. I will set and meet this preservation goal during my term – not just because it’s the right thing to do – I will do it because if I don’t, the opportunity to do it will not be there for future governors and future Virginians”.





# Land Conservation Methods

- Purchased lands ("fee simple")
- Donated lands
- Conservation Easements (Open Space, Historic Easements)
- Deed restrictions



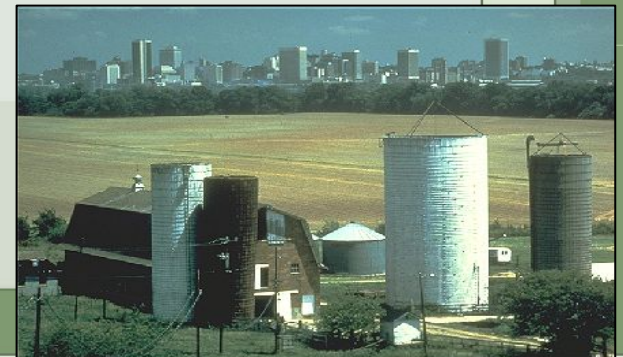




# Why is Land Conservation Important to Virginia?


Preserved lands protect a number of values:

- Water quality and water supply
- Healthy forests and ecosystem communities
- Prime agricultural lands in farming
- Habitat protection for wildlife
- Heritage, culture and history
- Recreational values
- Economic benefits






# Threats to Land Conservation

- Of all the land developed since Capt. John Smith's arrival in 1607, more than ¼ has occurred in the last 15 years.
  - Approximately 100 forest acres per day are lost in the Bay watershed.
  - Rate of loss of prime agricultural land in Virginia increased 76% in a recent five-year period.
  - Only a fraction of Civil War battlefield lands in Virginia are protected.
  - Only 15% of the globally significant conservation sites identified in Virginia are under adequate protection and management.
- 





# Land Conservation and Program Resources

- State Agencies – VDACS, DCR, DOF, DGIF, DHR and VOF
  - Wide range of private organizations
  - Virginia Land Preservation Tax Credit
  - Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Matching Grants
  - Local PDR Programs
  - Federal Tax Incentives recently improved
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# Preservation Tracking Capabilities

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

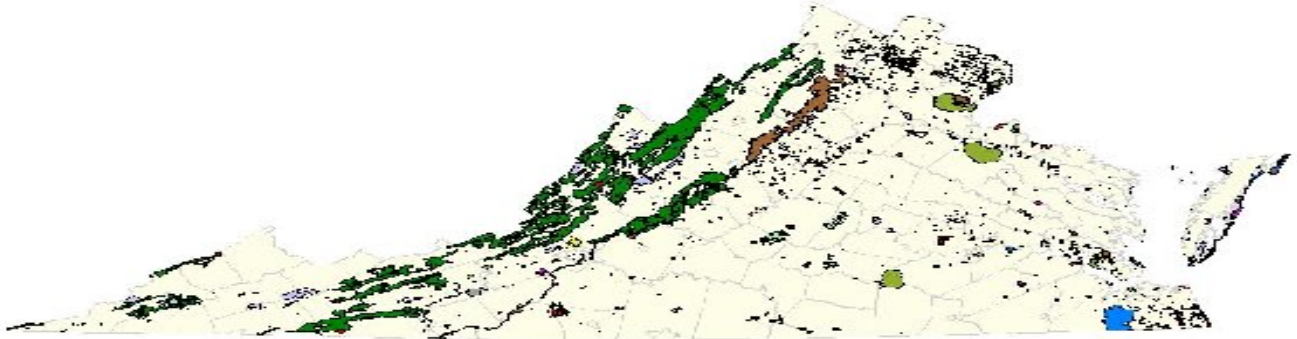
Back Forward Stop Reload Home Search Favorites RSS Print Mail News Groups

Address <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/dnh/conslandmap.htm>


Google Search 71 blocked ABC Check AutoLink AutoFill Options

Choose a topic below to learn more.

- [Maps Online](#)
- [Database Development](#)
- [Data Usage/Download](#)
- [Contributors](#)
- [Statistics](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [VA Office of Land Conservation](#)
- [Conservation Lands Index Page](#)



## Virginia's Conservation Lands Maps Online

We have created an online GIS mapping application to allow searching and display of Virginia's conservation lands. Here you can select conservation lands in a county or a watershed and generate lists and simple maps. Click anywhere on the map above or the link below. Once the application loads, press the Help button  to get instructions on how to use the application. This site is best viewed using Netscape 6.0 or Internet Explorer 5.0 or above. **PLEASE NOTE:** As of July 2005, the 1:24k DRG quad layers are no longer available as a backdrop in this application.

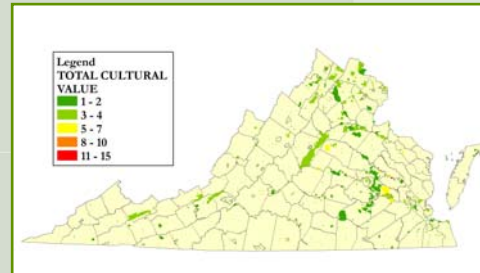
- [Interactive Conservation Lands Mapping Application](#)

# Land Conservation Targeting Tools

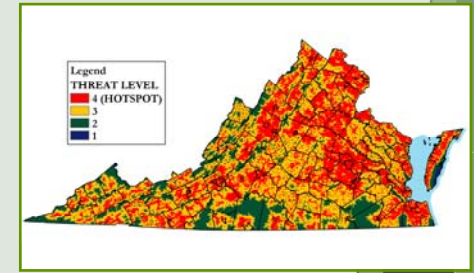
## Ecological



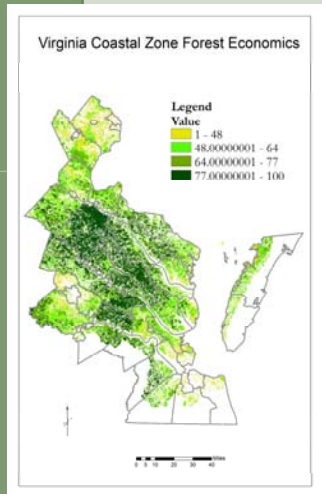
## Cultural Assets



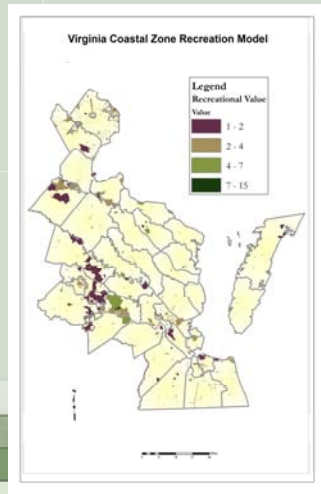
## Vulnerability



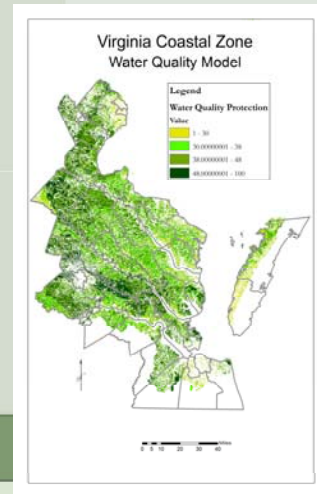
## Forest Economics



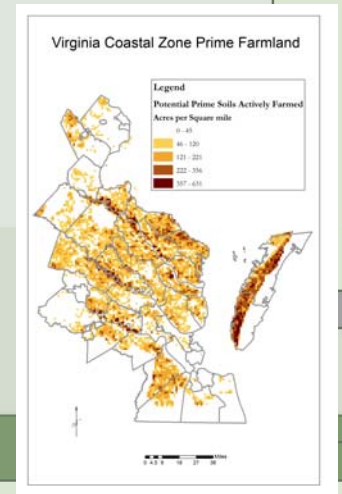
## Recreation



## Water Quality

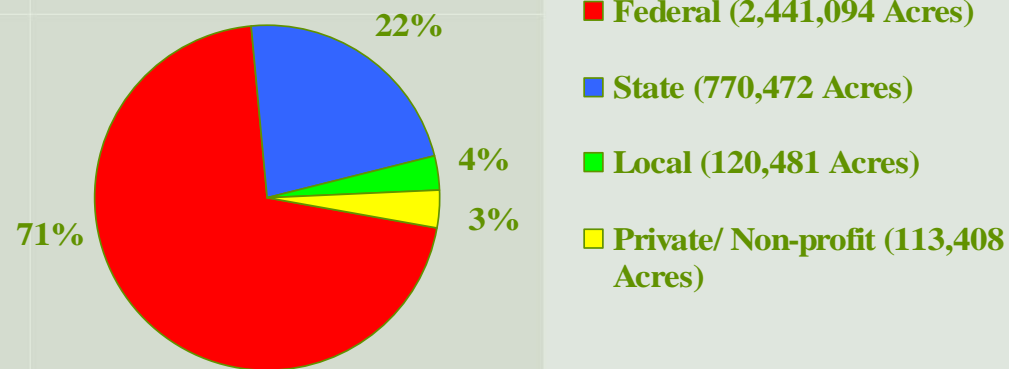


## Prime Farmland



# Acres of Land Preserved Statewide

- Total acres conserved is 3.44 million acres or 13.6% of Virginia.



- Bay Watershed: Total acres conserved is 2.46 million acres or 17.8% of watershed.



# Current Protection Trends


- Virginia needs to double amount of acres we protect each year
- Annual average of last 6 years = 56,000 acres
- Latest numbers to reach 400,000 by 2010:

**334,237 more acres needed!!!**





# Challenges

- Full-court press needed to meet the Goal
  - Lack of stable dedicated funding source
  - Federal funds declining
  - Targeting land conservation efforts
  - Land management and easement stewardship requires staff and funds
  - Need for more partnerships
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# Key Questions

- How can we double the amount of land we are protecting annually in order to meet 400,000 acre goal?
- What information or incentives are needed to encourage more donations of land and easements?
- What additional tools are needed to target and increase efforts and assure greatest impact with limited revenue?
- How can state agencies better meet land management goals and public expectations on newly acquired lands with limited funds and staff?







# Air Quality


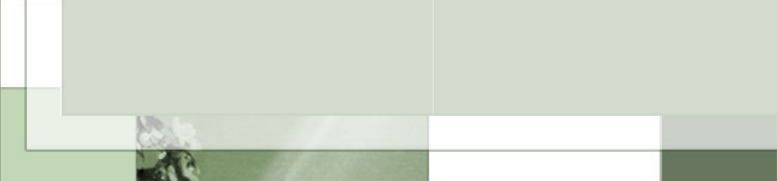
Rick Weeks

Chief Deputy Director,  
Department of Environmental  
Quality





# Discussion Topics

- Air Program Authority & Goals
  - Ground Level Ozone
  - Fine Particulate Matter
  - Mercury Deposition
  - Climate Change
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# Air Program Authority & Goals

- Federal Clean Air Act
- Air Pollution Control Law of Virginia
- DEQ Mission: *"Protects and enhances Virginia's environment, and promotes the health and well being of the citizens of the Commonwealth"*
- Vision for Air Quality: *"Improved air quality that supports communities and ecosystems"*
- Goals:
  - Reduce high ozone days
  - Reduce fine particle levels
  - Reduce air pollutant emissions







# Ground Level Ozone

- Seven areas out of compliance in 2002
  - Ozone air quality has improved since then
    - Power plant & vehicle emission controls
  - Six areas are now in compliance
  - Only NOVA remains out of compliance
  - Remaining Challenges:
    - Compliance in NOVA by 2009
    - Remaining control options are limited
    - Impact of continued growth
    - Impact on other areas
    - Possible change in the standard
- 
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# Fine Particulate Matter

- NOVA is the only area out of compliance
  - Most areas expect to comply by 2009
    - Additional power plant emission controls
  - Daily standard will soon be lowered
    - More VA areas could be out of compliance
  - Remaining challenges:
    - Not much short term improvement expected
    - Limited local control options
    - Less known about particle formation
    - Additional standard changes
- 
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# Mercury Deposition

- Air deposition partially responsible for elevated Hg levels in the water
    - Impaired waters & fish advisories
  - Power plants largest US source of airborne Hg
    - but small (1%) of all global sources
  - Challenges :
    - Global pollution problem
    - Contribution of VA sources (hotspots)
    - Non power plant contributions
    - Appropriate control levels
    - Comprehensive study required
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# Climate Change

- Warming of earth's temperature due to "greenhouse gases" such as carbon dioxide
  - Primarily due to fossil fuel consumption
  - Problem (and solution?) is global in nature
  - Challenges:
    - No federal authority
    - Available actions mostly voluntary
    - International cooperation needed
    - GHG emissions tied to growth
    - Energy conservation/efficiency
- 
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# Outdoor Recreation, Fisheries & Wildlife Resources

**Col. Gerald Massengill**

Interim Director, Department of  
Game and Inland Fisheries

# Wildlife and Recreation: Important to Citizens and to Our Economy



- Nationally significant historic places
- Long traditions of hunting, fishing, boating
- Livelihoods from harvesting the bounty of the Chesapeake Bay
- Beautiful landscapes to be enjoyed by foot, bicycle or other means
- World-renowned wildlife viewing sites



# What Virginians Want:

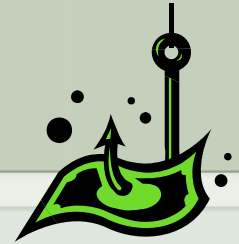
## *2006 Virginia Outdoors Survey*

- 92% - access to outdoor recreational opportunities
- 94% - protect Virginia's open space resources
- 78% - state should use public funds to acquire/protect significant resource lands
- Top 3 desired outdoor recreational opportunities:
  - Public access to state waters (boating, fishing, etc)
  - Trails (walking, bicycling, etc.)
  - Public access to parks and natural areas





# Natural Resources Are Big Business



- Travel
    - Generates >\$13 billion, focus – historic sites
  - Angling
    - >1.1 million recreational anglers, \$500 million
    - Commercial fisheries: 20,000 jobs, >\$1 billion to Virginia's economy
  - Hunting
    - 355,000 hunters, 5.8 million days, >\$320 million
  - Wildlife Viewing
    - 8.9 million days, \$800 million
  - TOTAL Wildlife-Associated Recreation: 4 million participants, 29 million days, >\$1.6 billion in expenditures annually
- 



# Issues and Trends

- **Trend:** Declining participation in hunting
  - **Trend:** Increased demand for water-based recreational opportunities
  - **Trend:** Increasing state ownership of lands; Governor's commitment to more
  - **Issue:** Requirements for fisheries management plans
  - **Issue:** Need for adequate funding for outdoor recreation & open space needs
  - **Issue:** Public's ability to access and use the water has diminished with development
  - **Trend/Issue:** Demand for trails has grown significantly
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# State of the Resource





# Virginia Wildlife Action Plan

- A wildlife conservation plan for the Commonwealth, not just DGIF
  - Developed with input from multiple partners, stakeholders, and citizens
  - Plan evaluates and assesses:
    - **Location and abundance** of wildlife and habitats
    - **Problems** facing species and habitats
    - **Conservation actions** to address problems
    - **Research and monitoring** needs
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# Problems Facing Virginia's Natural Resources

- Rapid development and use of land and water
  - Changing demographics in VA
  - Invasive exotic species
  - Pollutants
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# Bottom Line

Unless habitats and functional ecosystems are conserved, wildlife populations will continue to decline.

**Wildlife and native habitat will be conserved only if society determines they are *VALUABLE*!**





# Protecting Declining Wildlife



Restoration of freshwater mussels in SW Virginia



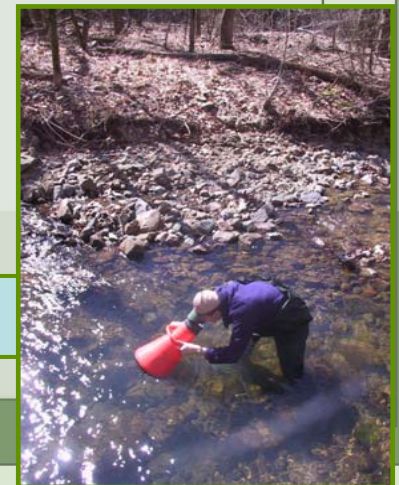
Restoration of American shad throughout Virginia



Eradication of invasive exotic zebra mussels



On-going biological inventories





# Connecting People to Nature



## *Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail*



- First statewide program of its kind in U.S.
- 43,000 square miles of diverse natural habitats
- 400 species of birds
- 150 species of terrestrial and marine mammals
- 150 species of amphibians and reptiles



# Questions to Consider

- What is our vision to ensure that our populations of all wildlife continue as vital assets for future generations?
  - How do we ensure that Virginia will be able to provide the quality and quantity of outdoor recreational opportunities that citizens and visitors expect and demand?
  - What information or incentives are needed to encourage development of outdoor recreational opportunities?
  - How can we measure success? How will we know that we are making progress?
  - How can Virginia better promote ecotourism throughout the state?
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# Water Quality & Water Resources

David Paylor

Director, Department of  
Environmental Quality



# Summit Process, Guidelines & Logistics

Institute for  
Environmental  
Negotiation